

REMARKS/DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Applicant thanks the Examiner for entry of the previous amendments to the specification and claims, and for approval of the proposed drawing corrections.

Claims 1-20 remain in the application. Claims 1, 6, 9-12, 16, 18 and 20 have been amended.

Claims 6 and 9 have been amended to correct typographical errors.

Claims 1-20 are objected to because of the following informalities: (a) the term 'frame wire' in claim 1, and the term 'field wire' in claims 10-12, 16, 18 and 20 should be 'curved frame wire'; (b) the claims do not clearly contain a preamble, a transitional word, or a main body; (c) the multiple use of the terms 'comprising' and 'consisting' in claim 9 is confusing.

Claim 1 has been amended to change 'frame wire' to 'curved frame wire'. Claims 10-12, 16, 18 and 20 have been amended to change the term 'field wire' to 'curved frame wire'.

Independent Claims 1, 9 and 17 have been amended to demarkate the end of the preamble from the body of these claims with the transitional phrase 'the discharge lamp characterized by'. In addition, the portion of the preamble of claim 9 setting forth the operating characteristics of the lamp has been moved to the end of the preamble, and set off by the introductory phrase 'the discharge lamp having'. In addition, the phrase 'comprising an outer bulb' in the preamble has been changed to 'having an outer bulb'.

In view of the above amendments, it is urged that the objections to the claims be withdrawn.

In view of the above amendments, it is urged that the objections to the claims be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Shippee et al. (herein 'Shippee').

Shippee discloses an HID (high intensity discharge) lamp having an arc tube and a wire mounting frame for the arc tube, the mounting frame having a coiled portion 46 to relieve thermal stress. Shippee does not mention that the wire frame should be curved away from the arc tube, and in fact is not concerned with bending of the arc, but only with relieving thermal stress in the mounting frame. Accordingly, the portion of the wire frame adjacent the arc tube 32 is not curved, but straight. See Figs. 2 and 3.

In contrast, Applicant's claims call for the wire frame to be curved away from the ceramic discharge vessel and toward the glass bulb **at least in a center portion adjacent a center portion of the ceramic discharge vessel.** (emphasis added).

For a reference to anticipate an invention under Section 102, the reference must show each of the features claimed. In the present case, Shippee fails to disclose a wire mounting frame which is curved in the central portion adjacent to the discharge vessel. This feature is the crux of Applicant's invention.

Accordingly, Shippee fails to anticipate the rejected claims, and the rejection is in error and should be withdrawn.

The advice that claims 4, 6, 9, 10, 13-16 and 19 contain allowable subject matter is appreciated. However, in view of the above arguments and amendments, it is felt that all of the pending claims are now in a condition for allowance.

Appl. No. 09/919,324

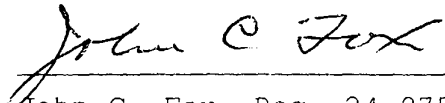
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Amendment/Response

Reply to non-Final Office action of 20 May 2003

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection and rejection of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John C. Fox". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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